

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 281801

62  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PRCM:OVARMSTRONG:MFR

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

EA:PCHABIB

S/S - MR. GAMMON

----- 040233

R 262044Z DEC 74  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USLO PEKING

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 281801

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR,PINS, CH  
SUBJECT: ESPIONAGE ALLEGATION BY PRC AGAINST FSO WILLIAM  
STOKES

REF: PEKING 2232

1. USLO SHOULD RESPOND ORALLY TO TING YUAN-HUNG WITH  
FOLLOWING STATEMENT, NOTING THAT YOU ARE ACTING UNDER  
DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS. YOU SHOULD AVOID IF POSSIBLE  
FURTHER DISCUSSION AFTER MAKING THIS STATEMENT.

2. QUOTE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT AGREE THAT  
WILLIAM STOKES WAS INVOLVED IN ESPIONAGE DURING THE PERIOD  
HE WAS ASSIGNED TO CHINA. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS FULL  
CONFIDENCE IN ANY OFFICIAL IT SENDS TO CHINA. UNQUOTE

3. FYI, TING'S STATEMENT THAT STOKES HAD BEEN EXPELLED  
FROM CHINA FOR "ESPIONAGE INVOLVEMENT" PRESUMABLY REFERS  
TO THE BLANKET EXPULSION ORDER COVERING THE MUKDEN  
CONGEN STAFF. THERE WAS NO SPECIFIC CHARGE AGAINST STOKES  
WHILE HE WAS IN MUKDEN. THERE WAS, HOWEVER, A MISUNDER-  
STANDING WHICH LED THE USG TO REQUEST VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS  
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PAGE 02 STATE 281801

TO PROTEST TO PRC ABOUT STOKES HAVING BEEN TAKEN AWAY IN

CONNECTION WITH AN ESPIONAGE TRIAL. ON NOVEMBER 25, 1949,

THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES OFFERED STOKES AN OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND AS AN OBSERVER THE TRIAL (NOT FOR ESPIONAGE) OF CONSUL GENERAL WARD AND FOUR OTHER CONGEN STAFF MEMBERS, WHICH HE DID. ON NOVEMBER 27, A SIMILAR OFFER WAS MADE REGARDING TRIAL OF SOME NON-AMERICANS ACCUSED OF HAVING BEEN ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE FOR THE USG. AFTER CHECKING WITH WARD, BY THEN RELEASED, STOKES ACCEPTED OFFER. DURING THAT DAY, WHILE STOKES WAS ATTENDING TRIAL, WARD RECEIVED A CALL FROM PEKING CONSUL GENERAL CLUBB, WHO THEN REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT THAT STOKES HAD BEEN TAKEN AWAY IN CONNECTION WITH AN ESPIONAGE TRIAL. RESULTS WERE AS MENTIONED ABOVE, AS WELL AS WESTERN PRESS STORIES THAT STOKES HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF ESPIONAGE. ON NOVEMBER 28, THE ENTIRE AMERICAN STAFF OF MUKDEN CONGEN WAS ESCORTED TO TIENTSIN AND PUT ABOARD AN AMERICAN FREIGHTER.

4. POSSIBLY RELATED TO TING'S STATEMENT IS FACT THAT HONG KONG SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST NOVEMBER 27 THIS YEAR, IN COLUMN "25 YEARS AGO TODAY," RECALLED THAT STOKES HAD BEEN "RELEASED" BY THE CHINESE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ESPIONAGE, ALLEGATIONS, HOUSE ARREST  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Image Path:**  
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**Subject:** ESPIONAGE ALLEGATION BY PRC AGAINST FSO WILLIAM STOKES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINS, CH, (STOKES, WILLIAM)  
**To:** PEKING  
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